

Dear Brooke Hills Church Family!

I began my work as Superintendent last June by first coming to the Brooke Hills Free Methodist Church. I came because I wanted you to know that I supported your Pastor Bryce Grieco, his family and this church. Bryce is a visionary leader with great skills and a heart for God. There is much to celebrate over the last nine years of Bryce's leadership to the Brooke Hills Family and to the communities that surround this church. He has led in establishing the sports ministry, the new sanctuary, hundreds of people who have received Christ as Savior, baptisms and many new members added to the church. To God be the glory for what has been accomplished for the Kingdom of God.

Pastor Bryce has now served nine years at Brooke Hills which is a long tenure in a Free Methodist Church and is a credit to your pastor. Nine years can also bring difficult decisions, tension among leaders and difficulties in relationships. Over the past several months, I have had many conversations with your pastor and your elected church leaders, to deal with difficult leadership and relational issues. This led me to hold a meeting with your church Board of Administration last Monday night with the Ministerial Appointments Committee (MAC) of the Pittsburgh Conference. A majority of the Brooke Hills Church Board felt it was time for a change of Pastoral leadership. As you know, we have a modified-episcopal system of government which means that the placement of pastors is made by the Conference MAC but in close consultation with local church leadership. Following that meeting, the Conference MAC, in consultation with Bishop David Roller, has decided that it is in the best interest of the Grieco family and the Brooke Hills Free Methodist to make a change of pastoral leadership.

I want to make very clear that Pastor Bryce is in good standing morally, ethically and spiritually with Christ and with the Pittsburgh Conference of the Free Methodist Church. Any rumors to the contrary are completely false and are offensive to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Pastor Bryce will continue to be your Pastor until June 30, 2018. This should be a time to celebrate the accomplishments you have

achieved together and the glory that has been brought to Christ's name through your faithful service.

Bishop Roller and I are actively working to secure Pastor Bryce's next church. We are also beginning a nationwide search to find your next pastor. After June 30, I will serve as your interim lead pastor working with the staff, CMCs and Brooke Hills Board of Administration through the transition time. Your prayers will be much appreciated.

In Christ,

Rev. Douglas Rabe
Superintendent Pittsburgh Conference Free Methodist Church